

[0086] ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0087] A multiport device includes an internal rules checking (IRC) circuit that makes frame forwarding decisions for frames received from a network. The IRC circuit includes multiple frame lookup components implemented in parallel. More particularly, each of the multiple frame lookup components includes a source address lookup component and a destination address lookup component. The source address and the destination address lookup component of the multiple frame lookup components accesses a common address table to determine the correct forwarding information for a frame. If an address is not present in the table, a source address learning component updates the table. The source address learning component may be shared by each of the multiple frame lookup components.